

IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A cam mechanism for rotating a lancet relative to a cap ~~that covers a lancing element of the lancet~~, the lancet including a body and a lancing needle projecting from the body, the cap being initially integral with the body of the lancet and subsequently removable from the body by rotating the cap relative to the lancet, the cam mechanism comprising:

a cylindrical housing separate from the cap;

a movable member contained in the housing for moving reciprocally in first and second directions parallel to a longitudinal axis of the housing, the movable member holding the lancet and configured to allow the lancet to rotate relative to the cap that covers the lancing element of the lancet;

a first groove inclined relative to the axis of the housing and a second groove connected to the first groove and extending linearly in parallel to the axis of the housing, the first and the second grooves being provided at one of the housing and the movable member; and

a protrusion provided at the other one of the housing and the movable member, the protrusion extending into the first groove and the second groove;

wherein the protrusion moves in the first groove when the movable member moves in the first direction, and moves in the second groove when the movable member moves in the second direction.

16-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A lancing device comprising:

a cylindrical housing;

a lancet holder that holds a lancet ~~having a lancing element covered by a cap~~ including a body and a lancing needle projecting from the body, the lancing needle being covered by a cap that is separate from the housing and initially integral with the body of the lancet, the lancet holder being reciprocally movable along a longitudinal axis of the housing;

a moving mechanism for advancing the lancet holder along the longitudinal axis of the housing; and

a cam mechanism for converting a retracting movement of the lancet holder along the longitudinal axis of the housing into rotation of the lancet holder and the lancet relative to the cap for removing the cap from the body of the lancet.

22. (Previously Presented) The lancing device according to claim 21, wherein the lancet holder holds the lancet in a manner such that the lancet holder and the lancet are not rotatable relative to each other,

wherein the cam mechanism causes the lancet holder to rotate together with the lancet.

23. (Previously Presented) The lancing device according to claim 21, wherein the cam mechanism includes a first groove which provided on the housing and is inclined relative to the longitudinal axis of the housing, and a protrusion which is provided on the lancet holder and is fitted in the first groove.

24. (Previously Presented) The lancing device according to claim 23, wherein the cam mechanism further includes a second groove connected to the first groove and extending in parallel to the longitudinal axis of the housing, and

wherein the protrusion passes through the second groove when the lancet holder advances.

25. (Previously Presented) The lancing device according to claim 21, further comprising a holding portion for removably holding an analyzer used for analyzing a sample taken by a piercing process.

26. (Previously Presented) The lancing device according to claim 25, further comprising a control circuit for analyzing the sample using the analyzer.